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ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1959

EAST WILTS UNITED DISTRICTS

MARLBOROUGH M.B.

MARLBOROUGH AND RAMSBURY R.D., PEWSEY R.D., AMESBURY R.D.

With the Compliments

of the

Medical Officer of Health

R. MACKAY, M.D., D.P.H.,
1 The Green,
Marlborough

Tel. Marlborough 487

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BOROUGH OF MARLBOROUGH

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1959

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the annual report on the public health of the Borough during 1959, which is in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 1/60 dated 8th January, 1960.

Statistical information is contained in the body of the report, which is followed by that of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

It gives me great pleasure to record my appreciation of the assistance and co-operation I have received from the staff and my colleagues at all times. I am especially grateful to Miss Grace Boswell, Clerk/Secretary in the East Wilts M.O.H.s. office for her invaluable assistance with the compilation of the report, more especially on this occasion.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

RODERICK MACKAY.

Medical Officer of Health

21st May, 1960

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health	R. Mackay, M.D., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector	H.C.Yeoman,M.R.S.H.,M.A.P.H.I.
Additional Public Health Inspector	R.J.Blandamer, M.A.P.H.I. (Resigned 30.6.59) R.H.West,A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. (Commenced 1.8.59)

The Medical Officer of Health acts also in that capacity for the other three constituent authorities of the East Wilts Combined Districts, viz: Amesbury R.D., Pewsey R.D., and Marlborough & Ramsbury R.D., and is responsible for the public health duties imposed by statute upon his office, he holds, in addition the appointment of assistant County Medical Officer, and in this respect carries out, on behalf of the County Council duties in connection with welfare service for which it is mainly responsible.

The Public Health Inspector also holds the office of Borough Surveyor and together with his assistant carries out within the Borough, in consultation with the Medical Officer of Health the statutory duties, which are placed upon the authority in general in connection with the public health.

The duties of the Public Health Inspector and the Medical Officer of Health are satisfactorily integrated.

Matters of public health are normally dealt with by the General Purposes Committee of the Borough Council, but there is a separate committee for housing, and one for waterworks and sewerage.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area in acres...	1496
Population in mid-1959 as estimated by the Registrar General...	5560
Number of inhabited houses	1662
Number of new houses erected in 1959:-	
By Private Enterprise	14
By Local Authority	nil
Rateable Value	£64410
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (estimated)... ...	£300

VITAL STATISTICS

	M.	F.	Total
Live Births	39	32	71
Legitimate	38	31	69
Illegitimate...	1	1	2
Live Birth Rate per 1000 population ...			16.3
Still Births...	1	-	1
Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate...	-	-	-
Still Birth Rate per 1000 total live and still births...			14.1
Total Live and Still Births	40	32	72
Deaths of Infants under one year:-			
Total	1	1	2
Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate...	-	1	1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 live births			28.2
Neo-natal Mortality Rate (under 4 weeks)			0.0
Early neo-natal Mortality Rate (under 1 wk.)			0.0
Maternal Deaths			nil
Maternal Mortality Rate			0.0
Number of Deaths from all causes ...	32	30	62
Death Rate per 1000 population... ...			12.2

NOTE:

The number of births, still-births and deaths are those registered during 1959 after adjustment has been made for inward and outward transfers.

BIRTH RATE, INFANT DEATH RATE, TOTAL DEATH RATE, 1959

	Marlborough Borough	Administrative County	England and Wales
Birth Rate (per 1000 popn.)....	16.3	18.77	16.5
Death Rate (per 1000 popn.)....	12.2	10.64	11.6
Death Rate of Infants under one year per 1000 live births.....	28.2	20.97	22.0

PRINCIPAL VITAL STATISTICS OF THE BOROUGH, 1950-59

YEAR	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959
Population	5360	5421	5281	5327	5390	5430	5480	5530	5560	5500
Live Births	77	56	61	71	65	69	63	69	84	71
	14.4	10.3	11.6	13.3	12.1	12.7	11.1	12.5	15.1	12.8
Still Births	1	0	0	3	0	2	3	2	0	1
	12.8	0.0	0.0	40.3	0.0	28.2	45.4	28.0	0.0	14.1
Total Deaths	35	52	48	58	54	55	57	54	63	62
	6.5	9.6	9.1	10.9	10.0	10.1	10.4	9.8	11.3	11.2
Infant Deaths	1	1	1	4	1	1	2	1	0	2
	12.9	17.9	16.4	56.3	15.4	14.5	31.7	14.5	0.0	23.2
Tuberculosis Deaths	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
	0.2	0.4	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0
Cancer Deaths	7	8	8	9	8	11	11	6	8	10
	1.3	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.5	2.0	2.0	1.1	1.4	1.8
Pneumonia Deaths	1	2	1	5	1	4	5	0	3	4
	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.9	0.2	0.7	0.9	0.0	0.5	0.7

N.B. The corresponding rate is given underlined together with the figure on which it is based. With the exception of the infant death rate which is calculated per 1000 live births, and the still-birth rate per 1000 total births, the rates given above are computed per 1000 of the population. The birth and death rates are not corrected in this table for area comparability.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Eighty notifications were received during 1959. Measles accounted for 77 of these. There were 2 notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis. The month of highest incidence was February with 45 notifications for measles.

There were no deaths from infective diseases.

IMMUNIZATION AND VACCINATION

These services are rendered by the County Medical Officer's department under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

Immunization against diphtheria, whooping cough and poliomyelitis are carried out at welfare clinics, and at special sessions under direct control of the County Medical Officer by the County medical staff, and by general practitioners who also perform all vaccinations against smallpox.

Of the 71 children born in the Borough during 1959, 53 were immunized before one year of age.

There were in addition 79 re-inoculations against diphtheria below 15 years of age during 1959, and 64 primary inoculations for whooping cough.

Primary immunizations against diphtheria carried out during the last ten years are as follows:-

Age group (years)	Year 1950	'51	'52	'53	'54	'55	'56	'57	'58	'59	Total
Under 5	36	65	50	58	50	29	64	51	66	62	531
5 - 15	22	25	18	7	15	12	4	4	3	2	112
Totals	58	90	68	65	65	41	68	55	69	64	643

Vaccinations against smallpox for 1959 in the Borough give a total of 95 primary vaccinations.

Inoculations against poliomyelitis were continued during 1959.

Details of Water Supply, Sewerage and Food Supervision etc., are given in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1959

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Measles	17	45	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	77
Pneumonia	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Totals	17	46	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	80

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)

Disease	Total	Age (years) 0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65-
Measles	77	-	9	9	9	7	41	2	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	78	-	9	10	9	7	41	2	-	-	-	-	-

CAUSES OF DEATH

REGISTRAR GENERAL'S RETURN, 1959

		M.	F.	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-	-
2	Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3	Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
4	Diphtheria	-	-	-
5	Whooping cough	-	-	-
6	Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7	Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8	Measles	-	-	-
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	1	1
11	" " lung bronchus	1	-	1
12	" " breast	-	2	2
13	" " uterus	-	-	-
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	3	3	6
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
16	Diabetes	-	-	-
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	5	3	8
18	Coronary disease, angina	6	6	12
19	Hypertension with heart disease	1	-	1
20	Other heart disease	1	2	3
21	Other circulatory disease	1	1	2
22	Influenza	1	-	1
23	Pneumonia	2	2	4
24	Bronchitis	4	-	4
25	Other disease of respiratory system	-	-	-
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1
29	Hyperplasia of prostrate	-	-	-
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31	Congenital malformations	-	-	-
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	9	13
33	Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
34	All other accidents	-	-	-
35	Suicide	-	1	1
36	Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
	Total of all causes	32	30	62

BOROUGH OF MARLBOROUGH

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year

1959.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my eleventh Annual Report on the work carried out by this department. A change of staff took place during the year, Mr.R.J. Blandamer moving to Eton U.D.C. His place was taken by Mr.R.H. West from Sidmouth U.D.C. in August.

The Report is in accordance with the Ministry of Health's Circular 1/60 dated 8th January, 1960.

I would like to place on record my thanks and appreciation to Dr. Mackay for his help and guidance not only in the past year, but for the whole of his term as Medical Officer of Health.

Your obedient servant,

H.C. YEOMAN.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Council Offices,
1, The Green,
Marlborough.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S VISITS.

A total of 654 visits were made by the Public Health Inspectors during the year and these are summarized as follows:-

Water Supplies.	12
Drainage.	35
Moveable Dwellings.	8
Factories.	15
Refuse Disposal.	16
Rodent Control.	21
Petroleum Installations.	22
Housing.	45
Verminous Premises.	6
Infectious Diseases.	4
Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.	28
Dairies.	38
Food Premises.	22
Improvement Grants.	32
Swimming Bath.	48
Shops.	6
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits.	34
Building Byelaws.	262
	654

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Food and Drugs Acts. The following premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955.

Sale of Ice Cream	26
Manufacture of Ice Cream	Nil
Manufacture and sale of sausages and preserved meats	5
Fish and Chips	1

Food Premises. Following is a list of Food Premises within the Borough:

Bakehouses	4
Butchers Shops	4
Cafes and Restaurants	11
Grocers Shops	16
Greengrocers Shops	4
Fishmongers Shops	3
Licensed Premises (9 of which hold catering licences).	20

Condemned Food. During the year the following foodstuffs were condemned, their disposal taking place, by burial, at the Council's Refuse Tip.

Tinned Fruit.	7½ lbs.
Tinned Meat.	420½ lbs.
Meat and Offal.	73 lbs.
Poultry.	51 lbs.
Other Tinned Foods.	1½ lbs.
	553½ lbs.

The tinned meat consisted of corned beef, ham, tongues, etc. almost entirely imported from Australia, Argentine or Germany.

Food Hygiene Regulations. Changes in staff have reduced the number of inspections, but conditions generally are satisfactory. No prosecutions have been necessary, but a number of informal notices were served.

Meat Inspection. The following schedule, in accordance with the Ministry's requirements, refers to animals slaughtered at the only Licensed Slaughterhouse in the district, 13 New Road.

. Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed.			15	15		
Number inspected.			15	15		
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.						
Whole carcases condemned.			2			
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.						
Percentage affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticerci.			13.3			
Tuberculosis only.						
Whole carcases condemned.						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.						
Percentage affected with Tuberculosis.						
Cysticercosis.						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.						
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration.						
Generalised and totally condemned.						

Slaughter of Animals Act 1933 - 1954.

The number of persons licensed to slaughter animals remains at 4. In addition a Cash Captive Bolt Pistol is held in the office by the Chief Public Health Inspector.

Milk Regulations.

There are 3 dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1949-1953 the following licences were issued:-

Dealers Licence to sell Pasteurised Milk	3
Dealers Licence to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk	2
Supplementary Licence to sell Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk	1

During the year 59 milk samples were taken, 36 Statutory and 23 Biological.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

At the end of 1959 the number of licensed caravans had risen to 8. All are on separate sites, and generally are in first class condition.

HOUSING.

Slum Clearance. The position at the end of December was as follows:-

Original list of properties to be dealt with	37
Added later	8
	45

Properties demolished	2
Properties empty and undertakings given not to re-let	20
Properties occupied, but undertakings given not to re-let	4
Demolition Order in Force	2
Closing Orders in Force	1
Properties improved and taken off list	7
Properties converted to stores	4
	40
Properties inspected and action pending	4
	44
No action, to date	1
	45

Housing Consolidated Regulations

The statistics called for in Article 31 of the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 are set out below:-

(1)	Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation.	18
(2)	Number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers.	4
(3)	Number of representations made to the Local Authority with a view to (a) the serving of notices requiring the execution of works or (b) the making of demolition or closing orders.	6
(4)	The number of notices requiring the execution of works.	10
(5)	The number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices.	6
(6)	The number of demolition or closing orders.	Nil
(7)	The number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under subsection (2) of section 19 of the Housing Act, 1930.	8
(8)	The number of houses demolished.	Nil

Council Housing. For the first year since 1946 no houses have been erected by the Council, and the total number of post war houses remains at 242.

The Council has, however, continued its policy of modernization of older Corporation Property.

Private building has also slowed down, only 14 new houses being occupied during the year.

Improvement Grants. During 1959, nine applications for Improvement Grants were made involving a total of £2,904. With the introduction of the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959, a further 5 applications were received for Standard Grants. The maximum Grants which could be paid in these cases total £650.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The collection and disposal of house and trade refuse continued satisfactorily. Delivery was taken of a new 10 cubic yard Karrier Refuse Vehicle during the year, thus enabling two Refuse Vehicles to operate when necessary. Some difficulty was experienced in October with fire at the Refuse Tip, and an opportunity was taken of tidying up generally, and covering the older parts of the Tip with soil etc.
The collection of waste Paper, iron and rags continued, and the following are weights of paper collected since 1955:

1955	77	tons	10	cwt.
1956	105	"	15	"
1957	98	"	1	"
1958	92	"	7	"
1959	96	"	12	"

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply for the area continues to be highly satisfactory, and all bacteriological samples have, without exception, shown "no evidence of pollution." 12 bacteriological and 1 chemical samples were taken during the year.
The following is an extract from the Report of Chemical Analysis carried out on 18-2-59:

Physical Characters...Clear.colourless.water:.no.deposit.....

	Parts per million
Reaction....Slightly.alkaline.pH.7.1.....	
Saline and free Ammonia.....	Nil....
Organic (or "albuminoid") ammonia.....	Nil....
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in three hours at 37°C.	0.1.
Chlorides.....	14..
Nitrates (nitric nitrogen).....	5.0.
Total Hardess.....	238.
(a) Temporary.....	180.
(b) Permanent.....	58.
Metals.....	Nil.
Nitrites (nitrous nitrogen).....	Nil..

Opinion: Normal.

During 1959 the new 6" trunk feeder main from the Pumping Station to the High Street was laid, together with a short length of 24" chlorination main. This new main duplicates the feed to the town, and it is hoped will also improve pressures in the Bath Road area. The work was carried out by the North Wilts Sanitary and Heating Co. Ltd. and cost approximately £6,200.

PETROLEUM.

The number of licensed premises remained at 28, although at the end of the year a further installation was under construction, All installations were inspected at least once during the year.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Work has at long last commenced at the Sewage Works on the improvements and alteration. It is anticipated that the work will take a year, and includes a new pump house and pumps, new filter media, new primary sedimentation tanks, and improved humus tanks. The disposal of sludge, however, remains a major problem. This is not included in the present scheme.

RODENT CONTROL.

64 complaints were received in 1959, and disinfestation continues to be carried out by the Borough Foreman, of these complaints only 5 came from business premises.

In October a sewer treatment was carried out in 10% of the manholes. 24 baiting points were used, and almost all showed "no take."

FACTORIES.

15 inspections were made last year, and the details are set out in the Appendix to this Report. A Means of Escape in case of Fire Certificate was issued for 1 factory.

PUBLIC SWIMMING BATHS.

There is an open air swimming bath used by the general public, schools and other swimming organisations. The bath is 100' x 40' and holds approximately 110,000 gallons. The water used is from the adjoining River Kennet, and is chlorinated as it enters the bath. Further applications of liquid chloros are made as required to maintain a minimum of .3 ppm free chlorine. The bath is normally emptied and cleaned each week.

During the past season 19 bacteriological samples were taken, 18 showed "no evidence of pollution" whilst 1 only showed "slight degree of pollution with non-faecal type coliform organisms." The bath was open from 1st May - 19th September.

APPENDIX

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1959 FOR THE BOROUGH

OF MARLBOROUGH IN THE COUNTY OF WILTS

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration

of the Factories Act, 1937

PART I OF THE ACT

1 - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.....	16	3	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.....	39	12	5	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).....				
Total.....	55	15	5	-

2 - Cases in which DEFECTS were found
(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found: Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred: To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	3	3			
Overcrowding (S.2).	-	-			
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)..	-	-			
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)..	1	1			

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were istituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6).....	-	-			
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient..	1	1			
(b) Unsuitable or defective.....	2	2			
(c) Not separate for sexes.....	1	1			
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).....					
Total.....	8	8			

PART VIII OF THE ACT (Sections 110 to 111)

reference Outworkers -

NIL RETURN.